

House Approves Congressman Childers' Appropriations Request for ICC Nursing Program

July 24, 2009

Washington, DC - Today, the U.S. House of Representatives approved \$700,000 of an appropriations request submitted by Congressman Travis Childers (D-MS) to help fund the consolidation of Itawamba Community College's Tupelo and Fulton Nursing School Programs. Through its passage of the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill, the House allocated funding for ICC that will help increase admissions into the Nursing School Program, provide additional nursing specialists to the region, and reduce costs.

"North Mississippi's rural communities are currently underserved when it comes to access to quality health care, and local medical schools are suffering from insufficient resources that limit their ability to admit students who could help provide critical services to these areas," said Congressman Childers. "Today's legislation is a step towards providing much-needed funding that will help ICC reach its potential in contributing to a larger health care work force in North Mississippi. I will continue to do everything I can to see that this funding is included in the final legislation and ensure that Mississippi's First Congressional District gets its fair share."

Below is the description of the funding request approved by the House:

\$700,000 - Itawamba Community College Nursing School Program. Funding would be used to provide for the consolidation of the Tupelo and Fulton Nursing School Programs in order to provide additional nursing specialists to the increasing population of a five county region. In the previous academic year, Itawamba Community College only had the physical capacity to accept 26 practical nursing admissions out of 125 qualified applicants. Relocation and consolidation under one central campus located in Tupelo, MS could in the long run save costs, while increasing admissions in the nursing school program.

A pro-gun, pro-life Mississippian, Congressman Travis Childers (D-MS) represents the First Congressional District in North Mississippi. He is a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition and serves on the House Agriculture and Financial Services Committee. Congressman Childers co-chairs the reestablished bipartisan Congressional Rural Caucus and was appointed to the bipartisan Second Amendment Task Force. For more information, visit <http://www.childers.house.gov/>

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